GIDEON
INTERNATIONAL

Bible Helps

இயேசு கிறிஸ்துவின் நாமத்தில் அன்பின் வாழ்த்துக்கள்

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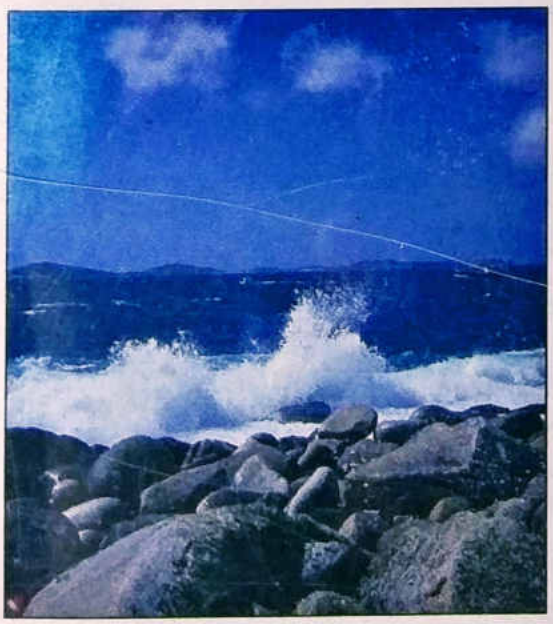
BIBLE HELPS

This booklet contains a reprint of the introductory notes which are the special feature of Bibles placed in the British Isles by The Gideons. They provide a guide consisting of topical Bible references on a variety of subjects and we hope they will be interesting and helpful to you.

As you read the Bible with the help of these notes, will you remember the many others - even today - reading copies of the Word of God placed or presented by The Gideons, that they may receive comfort and strength and, above all, may come to experience salvation through personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.



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WHO ARE THE GIDEONS?

THE GIDEONS is an association of Christian business and professional men and their wives who believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God, and have accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord.

Gideons are members of a local Church. They operate as an arm of the Church, and seek by personal example and testimony to lead others to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

All administration expenses are paid for out of members' own funds, so that all donations received from churches and individuals are used entirely for the purchase and distribution of Scriptures - no deduction is made for administration or other costs. Gifts and legacies are welcomed for the Scripture Fund.

Bibles are placed in hotel bedrooms where a succession of readers can find the Word of God. New Testaments and Psalms are placed beside beds in hospitals, and personal copies are presented to young people at senior schools, who are encouraged to read a section every day. Personal copies are also presented to such people as members of the nursing profession, police, fire and ambulance services and armed forces.

The Association started in 1899 in the United States of America and in the British Isles in 1949. Gideons distribute Scriptures in more than 170 countries. They are named after Gideon's men who were called to do an unusual work of faith for God. This story is related in the Old Testament, in Judges chapter 7.

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WHERE TO FIND HELP WHEN:

(The main reference under each heading is set in red italics)

Afraid
Psalm 56:3, 4, 10, 11; Isaiah 12:2; *Isaiah 41:10;* Mark 4:35-41

Attacked
Psalm 35:1, 2; *Psalm 54:1-4;* Proverbs 18:10; Luke 23:34

Bereaved/Brokenhearted
Psalm 147:3; 1 Corinthians 15:51-57; *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18;* Revelation 21:3-5

Bitter or Critical
Psalm 73:21-25; *Matthew 7:1-5;* Romans 14:10-13; 1 Corinthians 4:5

Choosing a Career
Proverbs 3:5, 6; Proverbs 16:3, 9; Jeremiah 29:11; James 1:5-8

Conscious of Sin
Psalm 51; Psalm 103:12; Proverbs 28:13; Luke 15:11-24; *1 John 1:5-10*

Considering Marriage
Proverbs 31:10-30; *Matthew 19:4-6;* Ephesians 5:22, 23; Hebrews 13:4

Contemplating Revenge
Proverbs 20:22; *Romans 12:17-19;* 1 Thessalonians 5:15; 1 Peter 2:23

Desperate (at your wits end)
Psalm 55:16, 17, 22; *Psalm 61:1-3;* Psalm 62:1, 2; Psalm 94:18,19, 22; Psalm 121:1, 2, 7

Distressed or Troubled
Psalm 9:9,10; Psalm 50:15; Isaiah 25:1, 4; Romans 8:28-39; 2 Corinthians 4:8, 9, 16-18

Doubting
2 Kings 18 & 19; Psalm 53:1; Isaiah 33:5, 6; *Mark 9:23, 24;* John 20:24-31

Facing Death
Psalm 23:4; Jonah 2:7-9; *John 3:16;* John 14:1-3; Revelation 21:4

Failure Comes
Psalm 73:26; Psalm 77; Psalm 84:11; Hebrews 4:14-16; Jude 24, 25

Faith is Weak
Joshua 1:7-9; Isaiah 7:9; Matthew 8:5-13; *Luke 12:22-31;* Hebrews 11

Far from God
Psalm 42:5-11; Psalm 139:1-18; *Psalm 145:18;* Acts 17:22-30; James 4:8

Feeling Inadequate
Psalm 138:8; 1 Corinthians 1:20-31; *2 Corinthians 12:9, 10;* Philippians 4:12,13

Feeling Lost
Psalm 107:4-9; *Luke 19:10;* Ephesians 2:12, 13

Friends Fail
Psalm 27:10-14; Psalm 41; Luke 17:3, 4; *2 Timothy 4:16-18*

Ill or in Pain
Psalm 38:3-10; Psalm 69:29, 30; Psalm 103:1-4; *2 Corinthians 12:9,10;* James 5:14-16

In Danger or Threatened
Psalm 27:1; *Psalm 118:6-9;* Proverbs 18:10; Mark 4:37-41; 1 Peter 3:13,14

Insulted
Psalm 69:9; Proverbs 12:16; Romans 15:3,4; *1 Peter 2:23*

Intimidated
Psalm 3:1-3; Psalm 55:20-22; Proverbs 29:25

Just Retired
Psalm 71:9; Proverbs 16:3; *Isaiah 46:4;* Matthew 6:33,34; Philippians 4:12

Lonely
Genesis 28:15; *Deuteronomy 31:8;* Psalm 23; Revelation 3:20
Looking for a Job/Made Redundant
Psalm 71:3; *Proverbs 16:3-9;* Isaiah 48:17; Isaiah 58:9-11; Colossians 3:17, 23
Needing Guidance
Psalm 32:8-10; *Proverbs 3:5, 6;* Isaiah 48:17, 18; Romans 12:1, 2
Needing Peace
Isaiah 26:3, 4; *John 14:27;* Romans 5:1-5; Philippians 4:4-7
Praying
Psalm 66:17, 20; Luke 11:1-13; John 14:12-14; James 5:13, 16; *1 John 5:14, 15*
Sleepless
Psalm 3:5; Psalm 4:1, 6-8; Proverbs 3:21-26; *Matthew 11:28;* 1 Peter 5:7
Tempted to:

Commit Suicide
1 Kings 19:3-5; *Psalm 31:9, 14, 15;* Psalm 88:1-5, 13; Isaiah 50:10; 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17

Divorce
Malachi 2:15, 16; *Mark 10:1-12;* Romans 7:2, 3

Drink Abuse
Proverbs 20:1; Proverbs 23:29-35; 1 Corinthians 10: 31; *Ephesians 5:18;* 1 Thessalonians 5:6-8

Drug Abuse
Proverbs 1:10; *Proverbs 14:12;* John 8:34-36; 2 Peter 2:19

Envy
Proverbs 14:30; *Galatlans 5:26;* Philippians 4:11; James 3:16

Lie
Proverbs 6:16-19; Proverbs 19: 9; John 8:44; Ephesians 4:25; Revelation 21:8

Sexual Immorality
Proverbs 5:1-21; 1 Corinthians 6:9, 10, 13; *Galatians 5:19-23;* 1 Thessalonians 4:3-7

Steal
Exodus 20:15; Romans 13: 9, 10; *Ephesians 4:28;* Hebrews 13:5

Thankful
Psalm 92:1-5; *Psalm 100;* Ephesians 5:19, 20; 2 Corinthians 2:14
Unemployed
Psalm 37:7, 25; Ecclesiastes 7:14; Jeremiah 29:11; *Philippians 4:11-13*
Unfairly Treated or Wrongly Accused
Lamentations 3: 59-63; *Luke 6:27, 28;* Hebrews 12:3; 1 Peter 2:19-24
Victimised
Psalm 37:8-11, 34; Psalm 59:3, 4, 9, 10; Proverbs 16:7; Hebrews 13:6
Wanting to be a Christian
Isaiah 55:6, 7; John 1:12; *John 3:14-19, 36;* Acts 16:30, 31
Weary
Psalm 116:5-14; Isaiah 30:15, 18; Isaiah 40:28-31; *Matthew 11:28-30;* 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
Witnessing
Isaiah 43:10; *Acts 1:8;* Acts 5:20, 21; Acts 18:9,10; 1 Peter 3:15
Worried
Psalm 46; Isaiah 43:1-3; Nahum 1:7; Matthew 6:25-34; *Philippians 4:6, 7*
You have left Home
Psalm 121; *Proverbs 3:1-7;* Mark 10:28-30

CHRISTIAN ATTITUDES TO THE EVENTS & CRISES OF LIFE

Adversity
Matthew 10:28-33; Philippians 4:4-7
Anger
Matthew 5:22-25; James 1:19-21
Citizenship
Matthew 22:21; Romans 12:17 to 13:14; Titus 3:1-6; 1 Peter 2:13-17
Contentment
Colossians 3:16, 17; Hebrews 13:5, 6
Conversation
Ephesians 4:15, 20-32; 2 Timothy 2:23-26
Criticism
Matthew 7:1-5; Romans 2:1-4; Romans 14:4-13
Death
John 11:25-27; Romans 14:7-9; Philippians 1:21; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Discipleship
John 15:1-8; Acts 11:19-26; 1 Peter 2:21-25
Diligence
Romans 12:11
Enemies
Matthew 5:10-12, 43-48
Faith
Mark 11:22-24; Romans 5:1, 2; Hebrews 11:1 to 12:2
Faithfulness
Luke 19:12-26; 1 Corinthians 4:1-5
Fellowship
Acts 2:42-47; Romans 12:9-16; 1 Corinthians 10:16,17; 1 John 1:5-7
Forgiveness
Matthew 18:21-35; Acts 13:26-39; Ephesians 4:31, 32
Friendship
John 15:12-17; James 4:4
Generosity
Acts 4:34-37; Acts 20:32-35; 2 Corinthians 9:6-15
Gratitude
Luke 17:17, 18; Colossians 3:15; 1 Thessalonians 5:18
Honesty
Romans 12:17; Ephesians 4:28
Humility
Luke 22:24-27; John 13:4-17; Philippians 2:3-11; 1 Peter 5:5-7
Jealousy
Luke 15:25-32; Galatians 5:19-26; James 3:13-18

Love
1 Corinthians 13:1-3; 1 John 4:7-12
Marriage
Mark 10:2-12; Ephesians 5:21-33
Obedience
Matthew 7:24-29; Matthew 12:50; John 15:10-14; Acts 5:29-32
Old Age
Luke 2:25-38; Titus 2:1-6; 1 Peter 3:10-12
Patience
James 5:7-11
Permissiveness
Romans 6:1,2, 11-14; 11-14; 1 Corinthians 6:9-20
Prayer
Matthew 26:38-41; Luke 18:1-8; Ephesians 6:18
Priorities
Matthew 6:33; Luke 12:15-21
Purity
2 Timothy 2:22; Titus 1:15,16
Riches
Matthew 6:24, 33; Mark 10:17-31; 1 Timothy 6:7-12
Righteousness
Romans 1:16-18; Romans 3:10-26; Romans 5:1-12; Romans 6:11-23
Salvation
Romans 10:9-11; Ephesians 2:4-9; Titus 2:11-14
Steadfastness
Luke 9:51; 1 Corinthians 15:57,58; Ephesians 6:10-18; 1 Peter 5:8-10
Sympathy
Romans 15:1; Hebrews 13:3; James 1:27; 1 Peter 3:8
Thoughts
Romans 12:3; Philippians 4:8

These are some selected Scriptures.
The Bible contains many others on the topics mentioned.

ABOUT THE BIBLE

ITS COMPOSITION

The Bible is a collection of 66 separate books and letters, written over a period of some 1,500 years, culminating approximately 100 years after Christ's death and resurrection. It is divided into the Old Testament (the first 39 books) and the New Testament (the last 27 books).

The Bible has stood the test of time, the greatest test of all literature. It was completed nearly 2,000 years ago, yet is now read more than any other book and by people of widely varying cultures.

ITS WRITERS

There are many different writers, who lived and wrote in different countries. They came from different walks of life and different social positions. One wrote history, another biography, another wrote on theology, another poetry, another prophecy. Some wrote on philosophy, and some stories of adventure, travel and romance.

Most of them had no contact with each other and no means of knowing that when their writings were all put together as one book it would be complete, all parts agreeing in doctrine, teaching and prophecy.

ITS AUTHOR

Christians believe the Bible to be the Word of God because the Lord Jesus Christ believed it to be so.

He constantly referred to the Old Testament in His teachings. In every case His words show that He believed in its historical accuracy and divine authority. Here are three (of many) passages which show His attitude to the Old Testament, called by the Jews "The Law and The Prophets".

1. MATTHEW 5:17-19. Here Jesus underlines the Authority of The Law.

2. LUKE 24:27. Here He underlines the Message of The Prophets.

3. JOHN 5:39, 40. Here He speaks of them as pointing to Himself as the source of eternal life.

He also gave the seal of His authority to the New Testament in advance of it being written:

1. MATTHEW 28:19, 20. Here He commissioned His disciples to teach all nations "everything I have commanded you". This would have been impossible without a written record.

2. JOHN 14:26. Here He promised that the Holy Spirit would bring back to their memories "everything I have said to you".

3. JOHN 16:12-14. Here He promised that the Holy Spirit would teach them things they were not ready to understand at that time, but which were a vital part of His message.

Therefore to believe that Jesus is the Son of God is to believe in the divine authority of the Bible.

Further, St. Paul wrote, "All Scripture is God-breathed" (2 Timothy 3:16), and it is clear from 2 Peter 3:16 that St. Peter regarded St. Paul's writings as part of Holy Scripture.

ITS TRANSLATION

The Bible, or portions of it, has now been translated into over 2,000 languages and dialects. There have been many different translations from the time of Wycliffe in the fourteenth century onwards. The one which has been used by the greatest number of people and for the longest period of time is known as the King James or Authorised Version. This translation was the work of 47 Biblical scholars commissioned by King James I. The translation, which was completed in 1611, is unsurpassed in beauty and power of expression by any other book in the English language.

There are a great many more recent translations and paraphrases now available, most of them in a more modern style of English. The Scripture quotations in these notes are from the New International Version.

ITS CONTENTS

The Bible is the story of God's revelation of Himself to man. It is not primarily a book of history, but its stories of dealings with individuals and with nations are as pertinent to the modern world as they have been to every age since they were written.

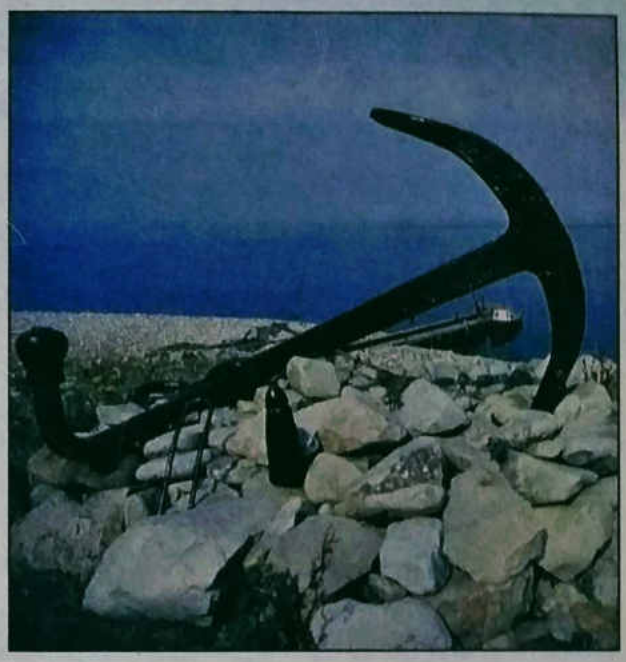
It is not primarily a book of science, but it is not at variance with any proven scientific fact. Some of its statements show a knowledge of the world of science which the writer could not have had apart from divine revelation.

It is not primarily a book of philosophy. Nowhere does it argue for the existence of God. Yet the God it reveals has been known in a personal way by many of the greatest minds who have ever lived as well as by many millions of ordinary people. It speaks to every man from the simplest to the most sophisticated at his own level of understanding.

Throughout the Old Testament the theme of the redemption of mankind is developed and God unfolds His covenant with men and nations. In the New Testament all that has been foreshadowed in the Old Testament comes to vibrant and startling reality.

God Himself comes to earth in the person of Jesus Christ. He is rejected and crucified, but rises from the dead in triumph. He sends His disciples out in the power of the Holy Spirit to carry His message of love and forgiveness to the four corners of the earth.

The great vision of the book of Revelation, with which the Bible ends, reinforces the warnings of the whole Book, regarding the consequences of rejecting God's light and love, and in poetic terms describes the future of the redeemed in heaven.



Through its influence countless people have been given a new strength, an unerring purpose and a sure hope in life.

ITS POWER AND EFFECT

During the British coronation ceremony a Bible is presented to the monarch with the words: "We present you with this Book, the most valuable thing this world affords. Here is wisdom. This is the Royal Law. These are the lively oracles of God." These words are true and deeply significant.

This book has the power not only to inform - but to reform and to transform lives. Through its influence countless people have been given a new strength, an unerring purpose and a sure hope in life. To the dying it has brought peace and assurance of eternal life. It has brought blessing to millions in every land and age.

It is supernatural in origin, eternal in duration, divine in authorship, infallible in authority, inexhaustible in meaning, universal in readership, unique in revelation, personal in application and powerful in effect.

It is given to you here in this life, it will be open at the Judgment, it is established for ever. Come to it with awe, read it with reverence, frequently, slowly, prayerfully.

THE MOST FAMOUS VERSE IN THE BIBLE

There is a verse in the Bible which has been translated into more than 2,000 languages. It tells of a God who loves us with an everlasting love. The verse is here recorded in 27 of the best known languages, which are understood by three-quarters of the earth's population. The verse is John 3:16.

AFRIKAANS

Want so lief het God die wêreld gehad, dat Hy sy eniggebore Seun gegee het, sodat elkeen wat in Hom glo, nie verlore mag gaan nie, maar die ewige lewe kan hê.

ARABIC

لأنه هكذا أحب الله العالم حتى بذل ابنه الوحيد
لكي لا يهلك كل من يؤمن به بل تكون له الحياة الأبدية

CHINESE

神愛世人、甚至將他的
獨生子賜給他們、叫一切
信他的不至滅亡、反得永生

DANISH

Thi således elskede Gud verden, at han gav sin Søn den enbårne, for at enhver, som tror på ham, ikke skal fortabes, men have evigt liv.

DUTCH

Want alzo lief heeft God de wereld gehad, dat Hij zijn eniggeboren Zoon gegeven heeft, opdat een ieder, die in Hem gelooft, niet verloren ga, maar eeuwig leven hebbe.

ENGLISH

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

FINNISH

Sillä niin on Jumala maailmaa rakastanut, että hän antoi ainokaisen Poikansa, ettei yksikään, joka häneen uskoo, hukkuisi, vaan hänellä olisi iankaikkinen elämä.

FRENCH

Car Dieu a tant aimé le monde qu'il a donné son Fils unique, afin que quiconque croit en lui ne périsse point, mais qu'il ait la vie éternelle.

GERMAN

Denn also hat Gott die Welt geliebt, daß er seinen eingebornen Sohn gab, auf daß alle, die an ihn glauben, nicht verloren werden, sondern das ewige Leben haben.

GREEK

Οὕτω γὰρ ἠγάπησεν ὁ Θεὸς τὸν κόσμον, ὥστε τὸν Υἱὸν αὐτοῦ τὸν μονογενῆ, ἵνα πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτόν, μὴ ἀπόληται ἀλλὰ ἔχῃ ζωὴν αἰώνιον.

HEBREW

כִּי־כָכָה אָהַב הָאֱלֹהִים אֶת־הָעוֹלָם עַד־אֲשֶׁר נָתַן
אֶת־בְּנוֹ אֶת־יְחִידוֹ לְמַעַן לְאֹ־יאֹבַד כָּל־הַמַּאֲמִין בּוֹ כִּי
אִם־יִחְיֶה חַיֵּי עוֹלָמִים׃

HINDI

क्योंकि परमेश्वर ने संसार से ऐसा
प्रेम रखा कि अपना एकलौता पुत्र
दे दिया कि जो कोई उस पर विश्वास
करे, नष्ट न हो परन्तु शाश्वत
जीवन पाए।

ICELANDIC

Því svo elskaði Guð heiminn, að hann gaf son sinn eingetinn, til þess að hver, sem á hann trúir, glatist ekki, heldur hafi eilíft líf.

ITALIAN

Poichè Iddio ha tanto amato il mondo, che ha dato il suo unigenito Figliuolo, affinchè chiunque crede in lui non perisca, ma abbia vita eterna.

THE MOST FAMOUS VERSE IN THE BIBLE

JAPANESE

神はそのひとり子を賜わったほどに、この世を愛して下さった。それは御子を信じる者がひとりも滅びないで、永遠の命を得るためである

KOREAN

하나님이 세상을
이처럼 사랑하사
독생자를 주셨으니
이는 저를 믿는 자
마다 멸망치 않고
영생을 얻게 하려
하심이니라

MALAY

كارن دمكيناله الله مغاسيهي ايسي دنيا ابن سهڠك دبريڽ اتۏ يڠ
توڠڬل ابت ، سڤاي بارڠسياڤ يڠ ڤرچاي اكندي جاڠن اي بناس
ملينكن براوله هيدوڤ يڠ كڬل.

NORWEGIAN

For så har Gud elsket verden at han gav sin Sønn, den enbårne, forat hver den som tror på ham, ikke skal fortapes, men ha evig liv.

POLISH

Ponieważ Bóg tak świat kochał, że dał swego syna jedynego, aby kto wierzy w Niego nie zginął, lecz żył wiecznie.

PORTUGUESE

Porque Deus amou o mundo de tal maneira, que deu o seu Filho unigênito, para que todo aquêle que nêle crê não pereça, mas tenha a vida eterna.

RUSSIAN

Ибо так возлюбил Бог мир, что отдал Сына Своего единородного, дабы всякий, верующий в Него, не погиб, но имел жизнь вечную.

SINHALESE

මක්තිසාද දෙවියන්වහන්සේ සව කීය ඒකජාතක පුත්‍රයාණන් දෙන තරම් ලෝකයාට ප්‍රේම කළ සේක. එසේ කළේ උන්වහන්සේ කෙරෙහි අදහා ගන්න සෑමදෙනම විනාශ නොවී සද කාල ජීවනය ලබන පිණිසය.

SPANISH

Porque de tal manera amó Dios al mundo, que ha dado a su Hijo unigénito, para que todo aquel que en él cree, no se pierda, mas tenga vida eterna.

SWAHILI

Kwa maana jinsi hii Mungu aliupenda ulimwengu, hata akamtoa Mwanawe pekee, ili kila mtu amwaminiye asipotee; bali awe na uzima wa milele.

SWEDISH

Ty så älskade Gud världen, att han utgav sin enfödde Son, på det att var och en som tror på honom skall icke förgås, utan hava evigt liv.

TAMIL

தேவன், தம்முடைய ஒரேபேறான குமாரனை விசுவாசிக்கிறவன் எவனே அவன் கெட்டுப்போகாமல் நித்தியஜீவனை அடையும்படிக்கு, அவரைத் தந்தருளி, இவ்வளவாய் உலகத்தில் அன்புகூர்ந்தார்.

WELSH

Canys felly y carodd Duw y byd fel y rhoddodd efe ei unig-anedig Fab, fel na choller pwy bynnag a gredo ynddo ef, ond caffael ohono fywyd tragwyddol.

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT

ITSELF
"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."
2 Timothy 3:16, 17

GOD
"The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin."
Exodus 34:6, 7
"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."
2 Peter 3:9

MAN
"And the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being."
Genesis 2:7

SIN
"There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God..."
Romans 3:22, 23
"But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear."
Isaiah 59:2

DEATH
"... man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment..."
Hebrews 9:27

THE JUDGMENT
"So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God."
Romans 14:12

"And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books."
Revelation 20:12

GOD'S LOVE
"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
Romans 5:8

CHRIST - HIS BIRTH
"She (Mary) will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."
Matthew 1:21

"But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.'"
Luke 2:10, 11

CHRIST - HIS PERSON
Jesus said, "I have come down from Heaven ... I and the Father are one ... Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father ... I came from the Father ... now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father ... I will come back and take you to be with me."
John 6:38, 10:30, 14:9, 16:28, 14:3

CHRIST - HIS PURPOSE
"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."
John 10:10

"For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God."
1 Peter 3:18

CHRIST - HIS RESURRECTION
"But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man."
1 Corinthians 15:20, 21

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT

"They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory."

CHRIST - HIS RETURN
"At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory."
Matthew 24:30

"For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first."
1 Thessalonians 4:16

THE HOLY SPIRIT
Jesus said, "I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you for ever - the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and he will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."
John 14:16-18

REPENTANCE
"... God, have mercy on me, a sinner."
Luke 18:13
"Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight..."
Psalm 51:4

SALVATION
"... if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord', and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."
Romans 10:9

FAITH
"Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ."
Romans 10:17

THE DEVIL
"Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings."
1 Peter 5:8, 9

TEMPTATION
"No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it."
1 Corinthians 10:13

SUGGESTED READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

The Beginning	Genesis 1
The Fall of Man	Genesis 3
The Flood	Genesis 6-8
Abraham Tested	Genesis 22
Jacob's Dream at Bethel	Genesis 28
The Birth of Moses	Exodus 2
Moses and the Burning Bush	Exodus 3
Manna and Quail	Exodus 16
Moses and the Glory of the Lord	Exodus 33
Balaam's Donkey	Numbers 22
The Death of Moses	Deuteronomy 34
The Lord Commands Joshua	Joshua 1
Crossing the Jordan	Joshua 3
The Fall of Jericho	Joshua 5, 6
Gideon Defeats the Midianites	Judges 7
The Lord calls Samuel	1 Samuel 3
David and Goliath	1 Samuel 17
Elijah on Mount Carmel	1 Kings 18
Benefits of Wisdom	Proverbs 3
Sayings of the Wise	Proverbs 22
The Wife of Noble Character	Proverbs 31
Remember your Creator While Young	Ecclesiastes 11, 12
Isaiah's Commission	Isaiah 6
To Us a Child is Born	Isaiah 9
Comfort for God's People	Isaiah 40
The Suffering and Glory of the Servant	Isaiah 52, 53
Invitation to the Thirsty	Isaiah 55
Jehoiakim Burns Jeremiah's Scroll	Jeremiah 36
The Writing on the Wall	Daniel 5
Daniel in the Den of Lions	Daniel 6

SUGGESTED READINGS FROM THE PSALMS

	Psalm
The Way of Righteousness	1
A Plea for Mercy	6
The God of Creation	8
God's Witness	19
The Suffering of the Messiah	22
The Shepherd Psalm	23
Who may ascend the Hill of the Lord?	24
A Plea for Pardon	25
The Lord is My Light and My Salvation	27
A Psalm of Forgiveness	32
The Lord is Good	34
The Greatness and Glory of God	48
A Psalm of Repentance	51
He alone is My Rock and My Salvation	62
Longing for God	63
Remember the Lord	77
How Lovely is your Dwelling Place, O Lord	84
Worship and Warning	95
O Worship the Lord	96
The Praise of a Pardoned People	103
I Love the Lord because He hears me	116
A Song of the Redeemed	118
In Praise of God's Word (The longest Psalm)	119
Where does My Help come from?	121
Building a House	127
Penitence and Pardon	130
His Love Endures for Ever	136
Hear My Prayer, O Lord	143
Great is the Lord	145
Praise the Lord	146

SUGGESTED READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

The Son of God becomes Man	John 1:1-18
Jesus Christ is Born	Luke 2:1-20
Jesus' Childhood	Matthew 2:1-23
Jesus Introduced by John the Baptist	Matthew 3:1-17
His Life's Work Begins	Luke 4:1-21
Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand	Mark 6:30-56
Jesus Heals the Sick and Calms the Storm	Matthew 8:1-34
The Parable of the Sower	Matthew 13:1-23
Parables of the Kingdom of Heaven	Matthew 13:24-52
Parable of the Lost Son	Luke 15:11-32
Parable of the Talents	Luke 19:11-27
Jesus Rides into Jerusalem	Luke 19:28-48
The Last Supper	Luke 22:1-23
A Parting Message	John 14:1-21
Jesus Arrested	Mark 14:32-56
The Trial of Jesus	Mark 15:1-20
Jesus Crucified	Luke 23:32-56
The Resurrection	Matthew 28:1-20
The Ascension	Acts 1:1-14
The Holy Spirit Comes	Acts 2:1-39
An Ethiopian Converted	Acts 8:26-40
Paul Converted	Acts 9:1-25
Paul Preaches on Mars Hill	Acts 17:16-34
Paul's Defence Before King Agrippa	Acts 26:1-29
God and Sin	Romans 1:16-32
Becoming a Christian	Romans 10:1-17
Faith, Wisdom and Perseverance	James 1:1-27
The Last Days	2 Peter 3:1-18
A New Heaven and a New Earth	Revelation 21:1-27
Jesus is Coming Soon	Revelation 22:1-21

PRAYING

Jesus spent much of His time in prayer. In the gospel of Luke we read that on one occasion Jesus was asked by His disciples how to pray. If you look at Matthew 6, verses 9 to 13, you will find that He taught them this prayer:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one: for
yours is the kingdom and the
power and the glory for ever.
Amen

PRAYING

In order to help you to start praying, we have suggested a number of prayers that will help you to speak to God. When you pray regularly you will soon want to add prayers in your own words.

Before reading from the Scriptures

Lord, help me to understand what you would say to me, as I read your book, and give me the desire to live according to your teachings.

Amen

When conscious of sin

Help me Lord, to recognise my faults, and the distress they bring to others. Show me the way of forgiveness that Jesus has provided through His sacrifice of Himself upon the cross.

Amen

When needing comfort

You know and have made everything Lord. Help me to be content in the sure knowledge that your will is best.

Amen

In search of faith

Help me Lord, to accept that I can't possibly know everything, and to rest secure in the certainty that you are the source of all truth.

Amen

Seeking guidance

Lead me Lord, into the path of your choosing, and give me patience to follow in that pathway, however great the difficulties or uncertainties that may arise.

Amen

In praise of God

You are the fountain of all hope and goodness, Lord. Give me the will to share with others the blessings which in your love you have chosen to give me.

Amen

DAILY READINGS 1st YEAR

The following two-year chart is taken from the pocket Testaments presented by The Gideons to young people in secondary schools, nurses, police, firemen etc.

JANUARY		FEBRUARY		MARCH		APRIL	
Luke		***Luke***		***Luke***		***Luke***	
1	3:21-38	1	9:28-36	1	13:1-9	1	22:1-13
2	4:1-12	2	9:37-45	2	13:10-21	2	22:14-30
3	4:13-21	3	9:46-50	3	13:22-30	3	22:31-38
4	4:22-30	4	9:51-62	4	13:31-35	4	22:39-46
5	4:31-37	5	10:1-16	5	14:1-14	5	22:47-53
6	4:38-44	6	10:17-24	6	14:15-24	6	22:54-62
7	5:1-11	7	10:25-37	7	14:25-35	7	22:63-71
8	5:12-16	8	10:38-42	8	15:1-10	8	23:1-12
9	5:17-26	***1 Timothy***		9	15:11-32	9	23:13-25
10	5:27-32	9	1:1-11	10	16:1-9	10	23:26-43
11	5:33-39	10	1:12-20	11	16:10-18	11	23:44-49
12	6:1-11	11	2:1-15	12	16:19-31	12	23:50-56
13	6:12-26	12	3:1-16	13	17:1-10	13	24:1-12
14	6:27-36	13	4:1-8	14	17:11-19	14	24:13-27
15	6:37-42	14	4:9-16	15	17:20-37	15	24:28-35
16	6:43-49	15	5:1-16	16	18:1-8	16	24:36-53
17	7:1-10	16	5:17-25	17	18:9-17	***2 Timothy***	
18	7:11-17	17	6:1-10	18	18:18-30	17	1:1-18
19	7:18-28	18	6:11-16	19	18:31-43	18	2:1-13
20	7:29-35	19	6:17-21	20	19:1-10	19	2:14-26
21	7:36-50	***Luke***		21	19:11-27	20	3:1-9
22	8:1-8	20	11:1-13	22	19:28-38	21	3:10-17
23	8:9-15	21	11:14-28	23	19:39-48	22	4:1-8
24	8:16-21	22	11:29-36	24	20:1-8	23	4:9-22
25	8:22-25	23	11:37-54	25	20:9-19	***Galatians***	
26	8:26-39	24	12:1-12	26	20:20-26	24	1:1-10
27	8:40-48	25	12:13-21	27	20:27-40	25	1:11-24
28	8:49-56	26	12:22-34	28	20:41-47	26	2:1-10
29	9:1-9	27	12:35-48	29	21:1-9	27	2:11-21
30	9:10-17	28	12:49-59	30	21:10-24	28	3:1-14
31	9:18-27			31	21:25-38	29	3:15-25
						30	3:26-29 & 4:1-7

DAILY READINGS 1st YEAR

MAY

Galatians	
1	4:8-20
2	4:21-31
3	5:1-12
4	5:13-26
5	6:1-18
Acts	
6	1:1-11
7	1:12-26
8	2:1-13
9	2:14-21
10	2:22-36
11	2:37-47
12	3:1-10
13	3:11-16
14	3:17-26
15	4:1-12
16	4:13-22
17	4:23-31
18	4:32-37
19	5:1-11
20	5:12-16
21	5:17-26
22	5:27-42
23	6:1-7
24	6:8-15
25	7:1-10
26	7:11-22
27	7:23-38
28	7:39-53
29	7:54-60
30	8:1-8
31	8:9-25

JUNE

Acts	
1	8:26-40
1 Corinthians	
2	1:1-9
3	1:10-17
4	1:18-31
5	2:1-10
6	2:10-16
7	3:1-9
8	3:10-23
9	4:1-13
10	4:14-21
11	5:1-13
12	6:1-11
13	6:12-20
14	7:1-16
15	7:17-40
16	8:1-13
17	9:1-14
18	9:15-27
19	10:1-13
20	10:14-22
21	10:23-33
Colossians	
22	1:1-14
23	1:15-23
24	1:24-29 & 2:1-5
25	2:6-23
26	3:1-17
27	3:18-25 & 4:1
28	4:2-18
John	
29	1:1-18
30	1:19-28

JULY

John	
1	1:29-42
2	1:43-51
3	2:1-11
4	2:12-25
5	3:1-15
6	3:16-21
7	3:22-36
8	4:1-15
9	4:16-26
10	4:27-42
11	4:43-54
12	5:1-15
13	5:16-30
14	5:31-47
15	6:1-15
16	6:16-24
17	6:25-40
18	6:41-59
19	6:60-71
20	7:1-13
21	7:14-24
22	7:25-36
23	7:37-44
24	7:45-53
25	8:1-11
26	8:12-20
27	8:21-30
28	8:31-41
29	8:42-47
30	8:48-59
31	9:1-12

AUGUST

John	
1	9:13-25
2	9:26-41
3	10:1-10
4	10:11-21
5	10:22-30
6	10:31-42
Revelation	
7	1:1-8
8	1:9-20
9	2:1-11
10	2:12-29
11	3:1-13
12	3:14-22
13	4:1-11
14	5:1-14
15	6:1-17
16	7:1-8
17	7:9-17
18	8:1-13
19	9:1-21
20	10:1-11
21	11:1-14
22	11:15-19
James	
23	1:1-18
24	1:19-27
25	2:1-13
26	2:14-26
27	3:1-12
28	3:13-18
29	4:1-10
30	4:11-17
31	5:1-12

DAILY READINGS 1st YEAR

SEPTEMBER	
James	
1	5:13-20
1 Corinthians	
2	11:1-16
3	11:17-34
4	12:1-11
5	12:12-31
6	13:1-13
7	14:1-12
8	14:13-25
9	14:26-40
10	15:1-11
11	15:12-34
12	15:35-49
13	15:50-58
14	16:1-12
15	16:13-24
John	
16	11:1-16
17	11:17-31
18	11:32-44
19	11:45-57
20	12:1-11
21	12:12-19
22	12:20-36
23	12:37-43
24	12:44-50
25	13:1-17
26	13:18-30
27	13:31-38
28	14:1-7
29	14:8-15
30	14:16-31

OCTOBER	
John	
1	15:1-8
2	15:9-17
3	15:18-27
4	16:1-4
5	16:5-16
6	16:17-24
7	16:25-33
8	17:1-5
9	17:6-19
10	17:20-26
11	18:1-14
12	18:15-18
13	18:19-27
14	18:28-40
15	19:1-7
16	19:8-16
17	19:16-22
18	19:23-27
19	19:28-37
20	19:38-42
21	20:1-9
22	20:10-18
23	20:19-23
24	20:24-31
25	21:1-14
26	21:15-25
Romans	
27	1:1-7
28	1:8-17
29	1:18-32
30	2:1-16
31	2:17-29

NOVEMBER	
Romans	
1	3:1-8
2	3:9-20
3	3:21-31
4	4:1-12
5	4:13-25
6	5:1-11
7	5:12-21
8	6:1-14
9	6:15-23
10	7:1-6
11	7:7-25
12	8:1-8
13	8:9-17
14	8:18-27
15	8:28-39
1 Peter	
16	1:1-12
17	1:13-25
18	2:1-12
19	2:13-25
20	3:1-12
21	3:13-22
22	4:1-11
23	4:12-19
24	5:1-14
Romans	
25	9:1-18
26	9:19-33
27	10:1-13
28	10:14-21
29	11:1-10
30	11:11-24

DECEMBER	
Romans	
1	11:25-36
2	12:1-8
3	12:9-21
4	13:1-7
5	13:8-14
6	14:1-12
7	14:13-23
8	15:1-13
9	15:14-22
10	15:23-33
11	16:1-16
12	16:17-27
Titus	
13	1:1-16
14	2:1-15
15	3:1-15
Philemon	
16	1:1-8
17	1:9-25
2 Peter	
18	1:1-11
19	1:12-21
20	2:1-10
21	2:10-22
22	3:1-18
Matthew	
23	1:1-17
24	1:18-25
25	2:1-12
26	2:13-23
27	3:1-12
28	3:13-17
29	4:1-11
30	4:12-25
31	5:1-12

DAILY READINGS 2nd YEAR

JANUARY

Matthew

1	5:13-26
2	5:27-37
3	5:38-48
4	6:1-15
5	6:16-24
6	6:25-34
7	7:1-12
8	7:13-23
9	7:24-29
10	8:1-13
11	8:14-22
12	8:23-27
13	8:28-34
14	9:1-13
15	9:14-26
16	9:23-38
17	10:1-15
18	10:16-31
19	10:32-42
20	11:1-19
21	11:20-30
22	12:1-14
23	12:15-21
24	12:22-37
25	12:38-50
26	13:1-9
27	13:10-17
28	13:18-23
29	13:24-30
30	13:31-43
31	13:44-52

FEBRUARY

Matthew

1	13:53-58

Philippians

2	1:1-11
3	1:12-30
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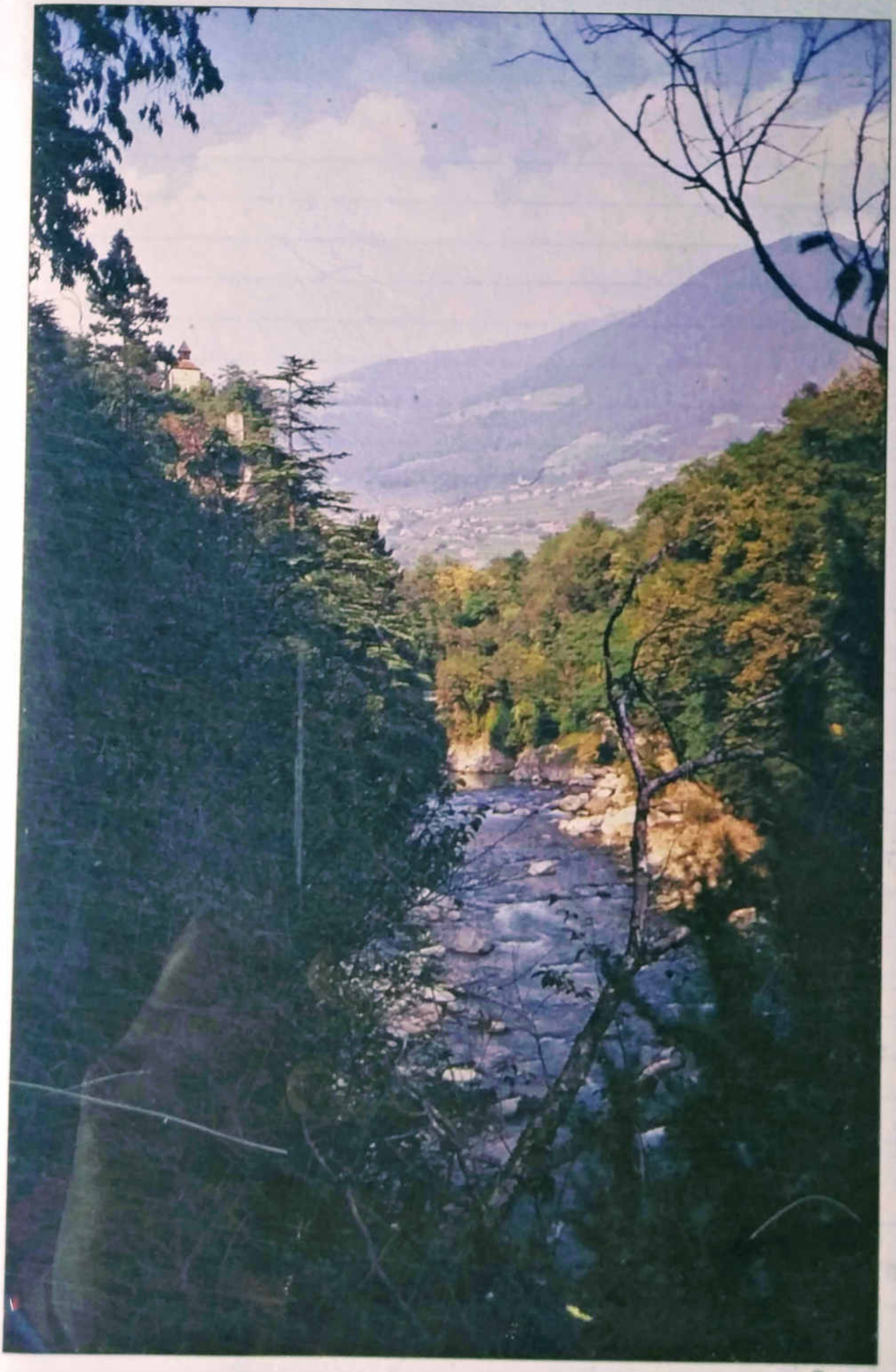

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